

Faculty/Benefit Concert
Haley Simons, piano

A benefit concert for the
Ernesto Lejano
University Scholarship Fund

Thursday, February 15, 2001
at 8:00 pm



Arts Building
University of Alberta

Program



Department of Music
University of Alberta

Program

Prelude from Partita No.1
in B-Flat Major, BWV 825 (1726)

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)

Nun komm' der Heiden Heiland
Chorale Prelude for Organ (1713-14)
(transcribed for piano by Feruccio Busoni)

Johann Sebastian Bach

From *Préludes*, Book I (1910)
...La danse de Puck
...Les collines d'Anacapri

Claude Debussy
(1862-1918)

From *Années de pèlerinage*, Première année: Suisse
Au bord d'une source (1855)

Franz Liszt
(1811-1886)

Mephisto-Walzer (1858-59)

Franz Liszt

Intermission

Prélude in C-Sharp Minor, Op.45 (1841)
Prélude in G-Sharp Minor, Op.28, No.12 (1839)

Frédéric Chopin
(1810-1849)

Polonaise-Fantaisie, Op.61 (1845-46)

Frédéric Chopin

Preludes, Book II: (2000)
(Commissioned by CBC Radio Canada)

Howard Bashaw
(b.1957)

1. Kaleidoscope - Reemerging
2. ... and again
3. Toccatella I: Contraverse
4. Contrapunctus: counter-angst in measures doubled
5. Contrapunctus: 4:3 Phase with mirror inversion
6. Toccatella II: A Post-1900 Phase
7. Behind A Quiet*
8. Behind Another Quiet, Part I: interlude
9. Behind Another Quiet, Part II: to the edge**

* dedicated to the memory of Ernesto Lejano

** dedicated to the memory of Marek Jablonski

I first met **Dr Lejano** when I was 15 years old, when I 'auditioned' for him as a prospective pupil. As it turned out, the 'audition' took place at my uncle's sand farm, and I don't even recall there being a functional piano around at all. Dr Lejano was, however, impressed by my dirtbike riding abilities, and as I negotiated the sand dunes, he and my parents negotiated my future as a piano student. Too young to realize the significance of the meeting, yet old enough not to care anyway, that afternoon was a turning point in my life.

For the next five years, I was privileged to have been exposed to, and shaped by, one of the most brilliant musical minds I have ever met, or will likely ever meet. Dr Lejano's teaching transcended any standard pedagogical path. His passion for music became my own. His encouragement became my accomplishments. And in the end, our twenty-year friendship became a most precious gift.

It is almost impossible to describe the profound influence this man had on my life - one that continues to this day. It is my wish that his influence carries through to young aspiring pianists of the future.

Through the generous donation of the Lejano family, the Ernesto Lejano scholarship fund was created, and the continued support from those of us who were blessed to have shared in his brilliance will ensure that his memory will indeed last as long as the music itself.

In Ernesto Lejano's own words, "... art is long, life is short."

Haley Simons received her Doctor of Music and Bachelor of Music degrees from the University of Alberta. Her Master of Music degree was completed with John Perry at the Sheperd School of Music at Rice University in Houston, Texas. Dr Simons has attended the Banff Centre and the Mozarteum in Salzburg, Austria on scholarship from the Johann Strauss Foundation. In 1989, she received a scholarship to attend the Musique International Summer Academy in Alkmaar, Holland. She has studied under such renowned teachers as Marek Jablonski, Claude Helffer, Jan Wyn, Karl-Heinz Kammerling, Germaine Mounier and Adam Wibrowski.

In addition to solo recitals in Alberta, Ontario, Texas, Ohio, Illinois, Austria and Holland, her performances include appearances with the St. Cecilia, Edmonton Youth, CFRN-TV and Edmonton Symphony orchestras, as well as many radio and television appearances. She has won numerous prizes and awards from the Canadian Music Competition, Alberta Culture, Young Keyboard Artists Piano Competition, and San Antonio (Texas) Piano Competition.

Haley Simons is a member of the highly acclaimed new music ensemble Hammerhead Consort. In addition to successful appearances at the Winnipeg New Music festival and with the ESO under the direction of Maestro Grzegorz Nowak, Hammerhead Consort finished their 2000 concert season with a performance tour of Poland. Already this year the Consort has appeared with Heidi Bunting and the Brian Webb Dance Company, as well as with Maestro Nowak and the Calgary Girl's Choir in Calgary.

Dr Simons is currently on the music faculty at Alberta College, and is presently Visiting Assistant Professor at the University of Alberta.

From White Rock, British Columbia, Canadian composer **Howard Bashaw** is a graduate of the University of British Columbia (DMA, 1989). He is currently Associate Professor of Music at the University of Alberta where he teaches composition, theory, and orchestration.